

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated December 29, 2005. Claims 43-45, 50, 51, 59, 61, 63, 65, and 68 have been amended, claims 46 and 58 have been cancelled without prejudice, and claims 70-94 have been added. Claims 1-37, 43-45, 50, 51, 59 and 61-94 are presently pending. No new matter has been added. A marked-up version of the claims (with strikethrough to indicate deletions and underlining to indicate additions) is included with this Amendment for the convenience of the Examiner to facilitate comparison of the presently pending claims with those previously presented.

Support for the claim amendments can be found throughout the specification and drawings. Support for amendments relating to the neck/projection of a coupling member can be found at, for example, Figures 1 and 2 and Col. 9, lines 6-24. Support for amendments relating to the resilient deformable material can be found at, for example, Figures 1 and 2; Col. 7, lines 47-64; Col. 11, line 60 to Col. 12, line 29; and Col. 15, line 66 - Col 16, line 7. Support for amendments relating to the sockets can be found at, for example, Figures 1-3; Col. 7, lines 40-47; and Col. 11, line 60 to Col. 12, line 29. Support for amendments regarding the arm sections can be found at, for example, Figures 1-3; Col. 10, lines 61-66; and Col. 17, lines 45-54. Support for amendments regarding the disc-shaped base can be found at, for example, Figures 1 and 2 and Col. 11, lines 60-64. It will be understood that the cited passages and Figures are merely exemplary and that additional support may be found in other portions of the specification, claims, and drawings.

Claim Objections

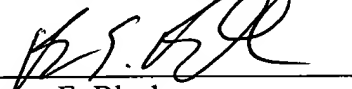
Claims 64-66 were objected to for lack of underlining. Claims 64-69 have been underlined according to 37 CFR 1.173(b)(2). The Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to these claims.

because the present claims include a broadened form of the elements of claims 40 or 45 which elements were used to overcome the prior art rejections. Accordingly, the Applicant submits that the present claims are allowable. The Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection of claims 43-45, 50, 51, 58, 59, 61, 63 and 67-69.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

1. (original) A mounting device for interposing along a line of juncture between a pair of relatively movable and relatively stationary objects, to support the relatively movable object on the relatively stationary object at a selected angular orientation of the line of juncture with respect to one of the objects, comprising:

means for forming a first coupling member on a first of the objects and a base on a second of the objects at spaced first and second loci, respectively, adjacent opposite ends of the line of juncture,

a split arm assembly comprising a pair of relatively rigid arm sections which are adapted to be operatively juxtaposed to one another along the line of juncture between the spaced loci of the first coupling member and the base, and have pairs of corresponding first and second end portions thereof which are operatively opposed to one another across a plane coincident with the line of juncture, so as to be disposed adjacent the first coupling member and the base, respectively,

clamping means for squeezing the pair of arm sections together relatively crosswise the plane of the line of juncture,

means for producing a differential in the reaction of the respective pairs of first and second end portions of the arm sections to the squeezing action of the clamping means, so that when squeezed together, the pair of arm sections forms a bifurcated arm assembly that in a first position thereof, has its apex at the first locus of the first coupling member and is loosely engaged about the base at the second end portions thereof,

means forming a pair of operatively opposing first sockets in the first end portions of the respective arm sections having substantially smooth part spherical surfaces at the inner peripheries thereof which substantially coincide with a circle of revolution that has its center at the first locus of the first coupling member when the bifurcated arm assembly is engaged in the first position thereof about the first coupling member,

the first coupling member having a substantially smooth part spherical surface thereon which forms the outer periphery thereof and substantially coincides with the circle of revolution, so